

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 24 2006

Docket No. 62894 (71589)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Rioux et al.

Confirmation No.: 1401

U.S.S.N.: 09/935,487

Art Unit: 3738

FILED: August 23, 2001

Examiner: B. Pellegrino

FOR: MAINTAINING AN OPEN PASSAGEWAY THROUGH A BODY LUMEN

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Technology Center 3700

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

This is in response to the final action mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 24, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Response.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

A Conclusion begins on page 6.